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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **HARAGUCHI, Kazutoshi, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **1618**

Serial No.: **10/545,311**

Examiner: **VU, Jake Minh**

Filed: **August 12, 2005**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **5058**

For: **BIOCOMPATIBLE SUBSTANCE-CONTAINING POLYMER GEL, DRIED
POLYMER GEL, AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING POLYMER GEL**

RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
DATED January 29, 2009

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: February 17, 2009

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated **January 29, 2009**.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), Claims 1-14; Group (II), Claim 15; and Group (III), Claims 16-19.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (I), Claims 1-14, for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

U.S. Patent Appln. Serial No.: 10/545,311
Response to Restriction Requirement
Filed on February 17, 2009

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge
our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

KRATZ, QUINTOS & HANSON, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald W. Hanson", written over a horizontal line.

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DWH/evb

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